

claim
A1
cont

a bias member operatively associated with the shaft and the frame so as to bias the second shaft end away from the one tubular end of the frame; and

a dampener operatively associated with the shaft and the frame so as to dampen displacement of the second end of the shaft away from the frame,

wherein upon impact force with said frame, said bias member compresses and after the impact force is released said dampener slows the return speed of said bias member towards its pre-impact position.

A2

16. A child-safe handlebar comprising:

a generally tubular frame having a tubular outer end;

a shaft having opposing first and second ends, the first shaft end being slidably telescoped with the frame outer end; and

a fluid dampener operatively associated with the frame and the shaft at the outer end to slow movement of the shaft out of the outer end,

wherein upon impact force with said frame, said bias member compresses and after the impact force is released said dampener slows the return speed of said bias member towards its pre-impact position.

A3

19. The handlebar of claim 16 wherein the dampener comprises:

an air flow damper operatively connected to the first shaft end such that the air flow damper is in a first, non-fluid flow obstructing orientation when the second end of the shaft is displaced toward the frame, and the air flow damper is in a second, fluid flow obstructing position when the biasing member displaces the second end of the shaft away from the frame to slow displacement of the second end of the shaft away from the frame.

20. The handlebar of claim 16 further comprising:

a biasing member coupled between the shaft and the frame so as to absorb energy as the shaft slides into the outer end of the frame.

Please cancel claims 5-11, 17 and 18. ✓